GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2155
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2004
OPENING OF PETROL PUMPS BY OIL COMPANIES IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES
Gadakh Shri Tukaram Gangadhar

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) :Whether some Indian Oil Companies with a view to earning huge profit have opened petrol pumps in Singapore and other foreign countries;

(b) : If so, the details thereof;

(c) : Whether it is a fact that the stock of oil in the country is not sufficient for domestic consumption; and

(d) : If so, the reasons for opening oil outlets by these companies in other countries?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) & (b) : While none of the public sector oil marketing companies viz., Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPC) and IBP Co. Ltd. (IBP) has opened any retail outlet (petrol pump) in Singapore, IOC, through its subsidiary companies, one each in Sri Lanka and Mauritius, has set up retail outlets in those countries. These subsidiary companies are obtaining their requirement of petrol and diesel from various sources, including local refineries, depending upon the economics. The company in Sri Lanka, apart from buying from local refinery and imports, is also obtaining part of its requirement from India in view of its geographical proximity. This also helps India export its surplus diesel.

(c) : No, Sir.

(d) : IOC is building itself into a transnational oil major. Overseas establishments will help IOC fulfil its vision, besides earning foreign exchange for the country and strengthening the energy security of the country.